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Rates need lowering?

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For news updated daily see www.inportnews.ca

WELLNESS CENTRE

Building a foundation one brick at a time

EDDIE CHAU
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Bricks are building blocks for a strong foundation.

In the case of Port Colborne's health and wellness centre its foundation will be built by the community. And a brick with your name on it will prove it.

The city announced last week its first fundraising campaign for the centre via the dedication walkway.

"Everyone can show support through the brick campaign. You can honour individuals, companies ... a loved one with their name in a brick. The walkway will be used to enrich the lives of healthy individuals and a healthy community," said Mayor Vance Badawey at the health and wellness centre construction site off Elizabeth St.

"The contribution will affect the lives of many for many years to come."

see BUILDING | page 2

NEW CENTRE: Construction on schedule

'Flagship' for community activities



Work on Port Colborne's new health and wellness centre is still on schedule says Mayor Vance Badawey. He says the centre is starting to attract attention from people passing through the city.

DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

DAVE JOHNSON
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Construction of Port Colborne's health and wellness centre is on schedule, says Mayor Vance Badawey. "It's going great," says Badawey.

The mayor receives weekly updates, which are passed on to councillors.

"We're starting to see things take shape there."

Crews from AquIcon Construction Co. Ltd. and various subcontractors are working to get the centre closed in before winter weather sets in.

"All of the subs (subcontractors) say AquIcon is a great company to work with. The company is very committed to the project," Badawey said.

see CENTRE | page 2

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CENTRE

'We can offer services to the whole region'

FROM PAGE A1

The mayor says the relationship the city has with the company is great, and gives their workmanship an A+.

People from outside of Port Colborne have started to take notice of the construction and site, he says, adding those people are asking questions about the centre, things like what will be inside and what kind of programming there will be.

Once the unnamed centre

is completed, it will feature two NHL-size arenas, an aquatics centre, gym, fitness and change rooms, bocce courts and a running track. Outside will see a playground area, baseball diamonds and soccer fields.

"This is not just a city of Port Colborne facility ... we can offer services to the whole region. The centre will be the only one of its kind in the area. You won't just see hockey games and practices, we'll have develop-

ment camps for players and coaches."

Badawey says the city will partner with both Port Colborne and Lakeshore Catholic high schools to offer them both more programming.

"The centre can be a flagship for overall activities in the community." The city will soon put out a request for proposal for someone to carry out programming for the new centre once it is open next year.



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Work on Port Colborne's new Health and Wellness Centre is still on schedule said Mayor Vance Badawey. He said the centre is starting to attract attention from people passing through the city.

BUILDING



EDDIE CHAU Staff Photo

Port Colborne Mayor Vance Badawey and Ward 1 Councillor Bill Steele, chair of the city's health and wellness centre committee, announce Tuesday a fundraising initiative in which donors can sponsor a brick on the dedication walkway to be built at the facility.

Engraved bricks begin at \$100 donations

FROM PAGE A1

A single brick with a name or message engraved will run for a \$100 donation. A double brick with one to five lines engraved will cost \$150.

For \$250, a company or business name can be engraved on a 12-by-12-inch brick. A business logo and name can be immortalized on a brick for a \$500 donation. The city is hoping to raise

\$3 million through the walkway campaign and yet-to-be-launched arena chair campaigns through which people can sponsor an arena chair once the facility is built. About \$100,000 has been raised so far through fundraising, Badawey said.

"We want to ensure it's being built affordably and not burden the taxpayers," Badawey said. "It's a com-

munity-minded project." Bill Steele, a Ward 1 councillor and chair of the health and wellness centre committee, said payments will be accepted on the city's website — www.portcolborne.ca — starting Oct. 15 while donations can now be made at city hall or any city facility such as the museum or library.

More information can be found on the city's website.

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■ OPEN HOUSE: Fire prevention week

Teaching fire safety

DAVE JOHNSON
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — A zip line was a big attraction at Port Colborne Fire and Emergency Services open house last Saturday.

The fire service held the open house, with the theme of Protect Your Family From Fire, to talk fire safety with children and their families and to kick off Fire Prevention Week, which starts Tuesday.

Capt. Bill Teal, of the fire prevention office, said the open house is held every year.

Teal said there was a station set up where children learned what to do when a smoke alarm went off. The station had a door which the children couldn't use because it was hot, meaning there was fire behind it. The children had to crawl through a tube to escape the area.

A fire rescue house, in the form of a bouncy castle, was also set up for children to play in and Sparky the Fire Dog was also roaming around the fire hall.

All of the fire services' trucks were also on display and open for children to explore and children had a



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo
Drayden Donohue, 5, goes down a zip line set up by Port Colborne Fire and Emergency Services.

chance to use a fire hose as well, with help from a firefighter.

But the big attraction was the zip line.

Teal said children had to go to at least one of the stations and show they completed it, by getting a sticker, before they could go on the zip line.

It's the second year in a row the technical rescue team set up a line.

The line stretched from a hill behind the fire hall down toward the parking lot.

Children were in harnesses and wore safety helmets as they went down with huge smiles on their faces.

Teal said when fire prevention week kicks off, firefighters will be going door-to-door to check that people have working smoke alarms.

"It's been proven working smoke alarms save lives," said Teal.

He said people should check the alarms at least once a month to make sure they are operating and change the batteries at least once a year. If a resident thinks there's a problem with their smoke alarm, they can contact the fire service who will come out and check it.

Working smoke alarms should be installed on every storey of a home and outside sleeping areas.

While not mandatory, firefighters also recommend installing carbon-monoxide detectors.

Teal said the day went well, and a couple hundred of people came through the fire hall. Enbridge, Sobeys and No Frills helped with the day and volunteer and professional firefighters volunteered their time to help out.



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photos

ABOVE: Port Colborne Fire and Emergency Services firefighter Ian Roberts helps Riley Boyes, 11, use a fire hose. The fire service held an open house on Saturday to help kick off Fire Prevention Week.

LEFT: Zoey Snider, 5, makes her way through an obstacle course set up by Port Colborne Fire and Emergency Services.



INPORT NEWS

Published by InPort News
Sun Media Corp.

228 East Main Street, Welland, Ontario, L3B 5P5

Tel: 905-732-2414 Fax: 905-732-3660

inport@wellandtribune.ca

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■ ourview

A vote for change?

Cindy Forster, Welland riding's new MPP, declared her election victory as evidence of change and a vote of optimism and hope.

The NDP has had a strugglehold on the riding, in its various forms, since Mel Swart took office in 1975. Swart was followed by Peter Kormos in 1988.

So we question how can she declare the win as evidence of change.

It's not changes. It was a vote for the status quo in the riding, which at its core has always been Welland, but now includes Wainfleet, Thorold, Port Colborne and part of south St. Catharines.

To declare a vote for change, then one of the other candidates would have had to have been elected. A real change in Welland riding would have been Conservative Doreen Ursini, Liberal Benoit Mercier, Green candidate Donna Crilland or the extreme end, Libertarian Donna-Lynne Hamilton.

Having a Liberal elected would have given Welland riding a seat at the table at Queen's Park, and could have pushed the Liberals into a majority government. If a Conservative had been elected, it would have given the riding a very strong voice in opposition, as the riding butts up against Progressive Conservative Leader Tim Hudak's home riding.

Unfortunately the Green and Libertarian candidates never stood chance against the established parties, but for one of them to have been elected would have been real change indeed.

What this province, and riding, needs is to move forward and strengthen the economy. To find jobs or create new ones for those people in this area and beyond who have lost their own over the years. We need a government that, despite all of the political differences, can find a way to work together and do what is best for the people that put them there, not what is best for themselves or their parties.

STRONG FOUNDATION

Bricks are building blocks for a strong foundation.

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The city is hoping to raise \$3 million through the walkway campaign and yet-to-be-launched arena chair campaigns through which people can sponsor an arena chair once the facility is built. About \$100,000 has been raised so far through fundraising. This kind of fundraising effort has been carried out in the community in the past and has been successful.

We're sure this campaign will be just as successful and encourage those that can to buy a brick.

■ I'VE BEEN THINKING

PASTOR GARY TOMIUCH
Wainfleet Congregational Christian Church

There are three different medals that are given to those Olympians whose performance is good better and best in reverse order they are gold silver and bronze.

Strange as it may seem the least favourite medal is silver. Some recipients have said "If I only tried a little harder I could have received the gold" while those who have received the bronze said "wow I've just made it".

The lesson to be learned for all of us to try our best at any worthwhile pursuit or to simply give a golden effort. God gave his very best, he gave his son for us.

Alm high even though we often fall short. Aim at nothing and you will hit it every time. A story was told of an observer who noticed arrows that were shot into the side of a barn wall. The unusual fact was that each arrow was in the centre of each bullseye.

Upon further investigation it was discovered that this person was known as the village idiot. "Then how does he always manage to hit the bullseye?"

Oh that's easy someone said, he just shoots the arrow into the barn then he draws a circle around it". Now to chance the metaphor to archery to a race. During dog races those greyhounds chased a mechanical rabbit by running as fast as they can.

They think that they can catch it as they are so focused on the object before them.

■ readers' views

Thanks for the support

The 31st annual Terry Fox Run in Port Colborne was a fun and successful day, raising \$12,349.60, and we'd like to thank everyone involved.

The day started with our fifth head band, given to people, including Mayor Vance Badawley, lost their hair with the help of Donna, owner of Donna's Unisex Salon, and Leah, owner of Leah's Locks.

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Race strong, go for the gold

Believers concentrate and focus on the Lord Jesus ran the race before them. With purpose and resolve,

strength and empowered by the Holy Spirit they run flat out for God. But they must also learn to pace themselves, to train diligently, to practice self-denial and to engage in self-discipline daily. It is not only important to run the race we must also finish it. The apostle Paul said in 2 Timothy 4:7 "I've finished the race" It is also important to compete according to the rules. Usain Bolt spent hundreds of hours in training but was disqualified because of a false start and he lost the race. The Bible gives us directions, instructions and guidance for running the race of life. Let's change the gold, silver, and bronze medals for three more colours and they are red white and gold. 1) Red. The high priest wore Red White and Gold as these were the primary colours that made up his garments. And especially once a year on the Day of Atonement he would enter the Holy of Holies and sacrifice an offering for himself as for his people. His white robe became red.

And did not the Lord Jesus, the greatest high priest of all entered the heavenly Holiest of all with his own shed blood? When our clothes are washed in the blood of the lamb they become sparkling white. The "one who conquers will be clothed in white" (Revelation 3:5). "And though your sins are like scarlet they shall be as white as snow" (Isaiah 1:18) Finally in John's vision as the glorified Son of Man he writes

"The hairs of his head were while like wool, like snow." (Revelation 1:14)

Now we come to the final colour which is 3) Gold. Just as King Ahasuerus held out the Golden sceptre to Ester (Ester 5:2).

All people can come to the King of Kings as he holds out the Golden Sceptre of his grace to them. "All that the Father gives me will come to me and whoever comes to me I will never cast out." (John 6:37)

Gold was precious, it was priceless it was fit for a King. The wisemen brought Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh to the Christ child (Matthew 2:11) and finally the risen and glorified Lord is clothed with a long robe with a Golden sash around his chest. (Revelation 1:13)

1. Red 2. White 3. Gold Christians will not have to face the Lords great white throne judgment that all unbelievers will have to face unless they repent. But Christians will have to face the Bema seat judgment as their works will be tried by fire. If they pass the test they will be like Gold, Silver and precious stones. If they fail the testing they will burn up like wood, hay and stubble. Yet they will be saved.

As you run the race remember that the Lord always paces for you he loves you and he cares for you. You can finish strong by his persevering grace extended to you, Grace saves you, Grace continues with you and Grace will one day bring you all the way home. Let us run with perseverance the race set before us. (Hebrews 12:1) and go for the Gold.

possibly by donations from Artiles Florist and Gift Shoppe, Buckner's Store for Sports, Crews Quarters Gifts, Drifens Restaurant, Glam Girl, Grants Gifts, Photography by Pamela, Port Electronics, Shapes Beauty Salon, Something Else, Super Mario's Pizzeria and The Spa. Thanks to all the volunteers who make run day fun and to participants.

Nancy Salvage and
Leigh MacKinnon
Port Colborne Terry Fox Run

■ COLUMN

Local library has a lot to offer

LINDSAY COSTELLO
Special to InPort News

It's not just a place for bookworms anymore.

The Port Colborne Library offers a variety of programming and activities for people of all ages, making it a valuable asset to the community and those seeking to learn new skills, meet new people or simply have a good time.

With everything from yoga to crafts, there is something for everyone in this facility that goes beyond book borrowing. Whether it be watching a film or learning to knit, there is no shortage of variety when it comes to educating and entertaining.

"People come in here from other places and they say 'Wow,'" said Librarian Val Catton of the spacious environment that houses its many resources. She said that for the size of the city's population, there is more than enough room to accommodate the needs of the public and the extra space provides the opportunity to offer more options.

In addition to the main floor and children's area upstairs, the library has an auditorium downstairs that can be used to house larger groups for various activities.

A main floor seating area is also home to Art in the Atrium, in which local artists and artisans are featured throughout the year and can display their work for the public to enjoy.

George Sanders' exhibit of paintings makes up the latest display, which will conclude tomorrow to prepare for the installation of the following exhibit, which will feature Bird Carvings by Jack Oskam and run until Nov. 15.

Catton said book borrowing has been fairly consistent and has not slowed down following the addition of eBooks. The library's Internet access is also a draw, which Catton said has created a steady traffic flow from open until close.

While tradition library activities are still booming, the extra options are seemingly endless and readily available to those interested.

"A lot of our programs are free," said Catton, adding that while some activities are offered at a cost, the staff does their best to make their programming accessible and keep costs to a minimum. Although all are welcome, Catton said pre-registration is often required because of space limitations.

She said the children's programs are well attended and that the arts and crafts projects are a main draw for young people.

Stacey Hoi, who works at the library, said she oversees most of the crafts and tries to coordinate the projects to coincide with memorable dates. For Thanksgiving, she helped participants create a turkey-inspired candy dish and is preparing to lead a Halloween craft later this month.

Another activity designed in the spirit of Halloween will be a spooky make up demonstration taking place on Oct. 20 that will teach participants how to create special effects.

Catton said because people have busy lives and a variety of interests, it is important to research different options to determine if programs will draw a crowd and hold the interest of those involved.

She said attendance varies depending on the program but that people show up for a variety of reasons, whether it be strictly to learn a new skill or for the social aspect that comes with the group



LINDSAY COSTELLO InPort News Photo

Five-year-old Hannah Sunday creates a Thanksgiving-themed candy dish during an arts and crafts session at the Port Colborne Library last weekend. Crafts are one of the many children's programs the library offers.

setting.

October is National Library Month and a new month will bring new programs to the city. Song writing workshops with Niagara folk/rock artist Kelly MacDonald begin this weekend as well as Introduction to Genealogy, which begins Oct. 25 and

teaches methods used to delve into one's family history.

For more information on the library's resources and programming, visit www.portcolborneilibrary.org or stop by 310 King St. to pick up a copy of their quarterly newsletter.



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■ BIA: Businesses team up with city



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

A horse and carriage ride was part of the Harvest Fall Festival put on by Downtown BIA and the city's economic development, tourism and marketing department Friday and Saturday.

Great weather for festival

DAVE JOHNSON
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — The Downtown BIA and city's economic development, tourism and marketing department couldn't have asked for better weather for the inaugural Harvest Fall Festival last Friday and Saturday.

The festival kicked off Friday with downtown businesses, many of which decorated their stores, holding sidewalk sales.

Unfortunately, a set of hay bales being used as decoration in front of the former Winchester Arms was set on fire on the Friday night.

Port Colborne Fire and Emergency Services firefighters quickly extinguished the blaze and fire Chief Tom

Cartwright and fire prevention officer Mike Bendia made the decision to remove all the hay bales from the downtown core.

"It's unfortunate," said Cartwright of the incident.

He and Bendia said many of the bales were up against doorways and windows of local businesses and if they had been left overnight and set on fire, could have caused major damage or a structure fire.

Rosemary Poisson, member of the Downtown BIA, whose business is Canalside, said members understood why the fire service removed the bales, which had been donated by The Mill Greenhouses.

see HARVEST | page 7



GRAND RE-OPENING

4

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■ HARVEST



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

A busker performs on street in Port Colborne. He was part of the Harvest Fall Festival put on by Downtown BIA and the city's economic development, tourism and marketing department Friday and Saturday.

BIA plans to hold festival each year

FROM PAGE 6

She said the fire didn't dampen the spirits of the businesses and the festival carried on.

On Saturday, the festival began at noon at Canalside with a hotdog sale, the proceeds of which were going toward Port Cares.

"Saturday is the big day," said Poisson, as residents and visitors started to fill the streets.

A clown and a busker on stilts roamed the streets of the downtown core entertaining shoppers and amusing passersby in cars.

Poisson said a number of events took place at King George Park, with a free craft area, complimentary fall har-

vest photographs sponsored by Boggio Pharmacy taken in front of a fall display, and a fall mum and planter sale by Renee's Greenhouses, which benefited Port Cares.

Horse and carriage rides, by Sentinel Carriages, were available at Market Square, Candy Safari served hot apple cider and Ten Thousand Villages offered complimentary free trade coffee. There was also free product sampling at Arlie's Flowers and Gifts and Canalside Kitchen Store.

"We hope to make this an annual event," said Poisson.

djohnson@wellandtribune.ca
Twitter: @DaveTheTribune



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Taylor Fraser, right, helps Alissa Gardonyi, left, paint a pumpkin at the Harvest Fall Festival put on by Downtown BIA and the city's economic development, tourism and marketing department Friday and Saturday.

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inPortbriefs

BOY, 14, CRASHES CAR

PORT COLBORNE — Niagara Regional Police are issuing a warning about a toxic plant after a 14-year-old boy may have ingested it crashed into a light standard last week.

The plant is called Jimson Weed and police said it carries a high incidence

of overdose, hospitalization and has frequently resulted in fatalities.

Police allege the boy stole a Toyota Camry on Donlea Dr. at about 4:15 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 4. He lost control of the car on Royal Rd., which runs off Donlea, and crashed into a metal light standard and large tree. He suffered

minor injuries. He has been charged with theft over \$5,000 and dangerous driving.

Police said they believe the use of an illicit drug was a factor in the crash.

"It has been established that a substance was consumed with the belief that it was marijuana.

Subsequent police and medical investigation strongly suggest that the substance ingested was Jimson Weed," police said in a news release.

COPS SEIZE COCAINE, PILLS, STOLEN COPPER

PORT COLBORNE — A 34-year-old Port Colborne man is facing numerous charges after a police investigation into cocaine sales.

Police began to receive information in the late summer of a man selling cocaine throughout the city.

On Tuesday, Oct. 4, police executed a search warrant at a Main St. W. hotel room.

Police seized about \$1,380 worth of cocaine, \$380 worth of prescription pills, more than \$500 cash and a large amount of stolen copper.

Charged with two counts of possession of a controlled substance for the purpose of trafficking, possession of proceeds of property obtained by crime under \$5,000 and possession of property obtained by crime under \$5,000 is Jeremy Rankin.

BROTHERS BUSTED FOR ALLEGED DRUG SALES

PORT COLBORNE — Niagara Regional Police have arrested and charged two Port Colborne brothers following an investigation into alleged drug sales in the city.

Police executed a search warrant at an apartment on Main St. W. in Port Colborne recently and seized about \$2,500 worth of drugs, including cocaine and prescription drugs, and more than \$800 in cash.

Charged with two counts of possession of a controlled substance for the purpose of trafficking and one count of possession of proceeds of property obtained by crime under \$5,000 each are Rosario Capercione, 59, and Edward Capercione, 50.



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■ **GOLF:** Funds raised for Wainfleet Community Fund



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Ald. David Wyatt, Mayor April Jeffs and Ald. Betty Kone hold Wainfleet's flag with Niagara Region Chair Gary Burroughs at Port Colborne Country Club on Wednesday. Jeffs held her first Municipal Leadership Golf Championship with 44 politicians and staff members from across Niagara. Funds raised from the day will go toward the Wainfleet Community Fund.

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■ ENTERTAINER



NICOLE LEJEUNE
For InPort News

PORT COLBORNE — Comedian Joe Crawford will be celebrating his 10th anniversary by touring Niagara with his act, a combination of stand-up, singing, impersonations and an overall fun family evening.

The Port Colborne native is quite the jack of all trades. Not only does he perform to excited audiences, he also plays piano, organ, acts as a master of ceremonies and DJs for various events.

Crawford also hosts his own online radio show where he has interviewed an array of lively guests such as Colin Mochrie, Martin Short and Ron James.

For Crawford's upcoming

Handout photo
Comedian Joe Crawford will be touring across Niagara. His act includes stand-up, singing and impersonations

Crawford takes show on the road

I'd say my show is about 60/40 – 60% of my show is prepared with my acts and then I like to get the audience to participate with the jokes."

Joe Crawford

ing mini tour across Niagara he will be performing at the Dunnville Legion in Dunnville on Oct. 15, the Rose City Kids Theatre in Welland on Oct. 21, the First Presbyterian Church in his hometown of Port Colborne on Nov. 12 (formerly on Nov. 5) and at the St Andrew's Church in St Catharines on Nov. 18.

The proceeds from Crawford's shows, called Joe Crawford Live, will be given to charities and organizations within the communities he'll

be performing in.

When asked what showgoers can expect from his anniversary tour, Crawford says he runs a very "family-oriented and clean show" and will be featuring all of his musical impersonations. "Dolly Parton is kind of my signature act but I'll be doing all of my impersonations for each show whereas I usually like to break them up. It's going to be crazy."

Apart from his audience favourite, Dolly Parton, his comedy show will also involve impersonations of Elvis Presley, Sonny and Cher, and Crawford says he'll be showcasing two new acts, Tina Turner and Elton John.

The ambitious comedian sings familiar tunes from the oldies, country and soft rock as well as tells jokes and likes to get the audience involved.

"I'd say my show is about 60/40 – 60% of my show is prepared with my acts and then I like to get the audience to participate with the jokes." He says this formula changes the dynamic between himself and his audience and allows for more improvisation, making no two shows exactly alike.

Tickets to Crawford's shows are \$10 in advance and can be bought by leaving a message at the box office 289-241-2128 or can be bought in person at the Dunnville Legion, Friends Over 55 Center in Port Colborne or the Icebox in Port Colborne. Tickets can also be bought at the door on the night of the shows for \$15. Doors are open at 6:30 p.m. and the show begins at 7 p.m.



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■ LEASE

Port Colborne Hydro sold to Canadian Niagara Power

MARYANNE FIRTH
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — After 10 years of leasing Port Colborne Hydro Inc., Canadian Niagara Power will purchase the utility at a cost of \$6.9 million.

Port Colborne city council approved a resolution recently that allows the

transaction to move forward.

The \$6.9 million to be received is the buyout at the end of the 10-year leasing term. In total, the city receives \$15.6 million for the transaction.

Mark Rodgers, representing Toronto legal firm Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, presented the resolution to council via teleconference.

As part of the 10-year leasing agreement, CNP was given the option to purchase the leased assets at the end of the lease term. Funds acquired through the sale have been earmarked by council to assist with the cost of the city's new health and wellness centre, for which construction is underway.

Before agreeing to the sale, it was important for the city to gain a clear understanding from CNP about what the impact would be for ratepayers after the deal closes, Rodgers said.

CNP has indicated there are no major increases expected in Port Colborne rates, as the company has no capital expenditures in the

near horizon, he said.

"That's as much comfort as you can reasonably get," Rodgers told council.

The city's MAAD application (Mergers, Acquisitions, Amalgamations and Divestitures), which is needed anytime there is a merger or transfer of utilities, is expected to be filed with the Ontario Energy Board

within the next week or two, Rodgers said.

The lease between CNP and Port Colborne Hydro ends April 15, 2012.

The deal has not only brought the city financial benefits, but has seen CNP accelerate more than 10 years of capital work in a single year's time, said Mayor Vance Badawey.



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■ **PORT WOMAN:** Erin Wilson spent three weeks in the country

Getting a better picture of Iraq

DAVE JOHNSON
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Erin Wilson had no idea what to expect when she landed in Sulaymaniyah, Iraq, in late August to teach photography skills to disadvantaged youths.

"I had this concept of Iraq that came from mass media," the Port Colborne woman said.

"I knew about the war and heard about the danger. I didn't know anything about the culture or the history of the Kurdish people."

I felt safe here, safe in a way I haven't felt in a lot of other cities. It's not in the Kurdish culture to steal and I never had to worry about leaving my camera bag alone."

Erin Wilson

What she found was a very safe city with people who were very friendly, welcoming and happy to see her.

"The people were more friendly than I could imagine," Wilson said, adding hospitality is "massive" in Kurdish culture.

Wilson said because she "sticks out in a lot of ways" people in the city were staring at her, but it wasn't considered to be rude.

"It was a little odd at first. Once I taught the age of someone staring, I smiled at them and greeted them,



One of the children in the One-Shot Project in Sulaymaniyah, Iraq, reads a camera. Port Colborne's Erin Wilson was in Iraq for two weeks teaching photography to children from a government-run orphanage.

they'd smile back and greet me. I find it's good to meet curiosity with openness."

She said people thanked her for visiting the city and Iraq, adding they aren't aware of the reputation the country has across the world.

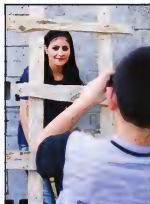
"I felt safe here, safe in a way I haven't felt in a lot of other cities. It's not in the Kurdish culture to steal and I never had to worry about leaving my camera bag alone."

Wilson said there were money changers in a bazaar that left large wads of various currencies sitting in

the open and no one would think of trying to take them.

"It's completely different than anything I've experienced before," said Wilson, who has been to India and Africa.

When she was in the bazaar, while on a break from her One-Shot



Supplied photo

One of the children in the One-Shot Project in Sulaymaniyah, Iraq, takes a photo of a translator assisting with the project. Port Colborne's Erin Wilson was in Iraq for two weeks teaching photography to children from a government-run orphanage.

Project teaching kid, many of the vendors would welcome her right into their stalls. They were very open to having their photos taken and wanted her to take them.

While taking photos in the vendors' stalls, she'd occasionally look back and see a group of people watching her work, which she found a little different.

"Photos are actually a really big deal to them. When I was done at the bazaar, I went and had prints made of the vendors I visited. I went back the next day to give them their prints and most recognized me right away. They were very pleased to have their photos. It was one of the highlights of my trip."

As for the perception that all of the women are dressed in burkas and the men in flowing robes, Wilson said that's far from what people in Sulaymaniyah dressed like.

"The translator I worked with ... she looked like someone you'd find on the streets here, you'd never know the difference."

She said there is a mix of traditional clothing worn by men and women, but it is usually the older people that would be found that way.

When first arriving in Sulaymaniyah, a large city in the northern part of Iraq, she said it was the end of summer and it was hot, dusty and dry.

"Quite a bit different from living here in humid southern Ontario."

see **PHOTOGRAPHY** | page 13

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■ PHOTOGRAPHY

Iraqi children catch shutter bug

FROM PAGE 12

She stayed on the outskirts of the city, with a population of about 650,000, in the sixth-storey apartment of Heber Vega, a Chilean humanitarian and cultural photographer who launched the One-Shot Project.

One-Shot was created for economically, physically and socially disadvantaged 10-to 17-year-old Iraqi youths living in unfavourable conditions. It is all about giving opportunities through vocational training in photography and multimedia, while teaching peace-making values.

Wilson started working with the youths, all from a government-run orphanage, on a Monday morning and said from the very start, the 'kids just amazed me.'

"They were very curious and eager to learn; you could see them sitting on the edge of their seats. Everything in their body language showed they were totally into it."

They were very curious and eager to learn; you could see them sitting on the edge of their seats."

Erin Wilson

Despite a mix of point-and-shoot cameras, with manuals in English, Wilson said some boys quickly picked up on how to use them. Her job in with the One-Shot Project was to set up a lesson plan and teach the students each day for a week before school started. She'd present various topics, such as lighting and framing, with the help of a group of female translators from a local university.

She said the translators had a fantastic job getting the concepts across.

A review of the children's work was carried out each day, with critiques and positive feedback. They were also asked what they thought of the lessons. Wilson said the children were learning from each other as well.

Some of the photos she was seeing produced were "brilliant."

Wilson said there were some children who had a natural bent toward photography and could pre-visualize the images they wanted to make. One boy, she said, nailed the concept of framing perfectly and waited for the shot he wanted to get.

Besides herself and Vega, Iraqi photographer Julie Adnan also taught the



Supplied photo
Olive vendor at a bazaar, Sulaymaniyah, Iraq.

children.

With a peace-making part of the program, Wilson said the photography aspect was not set up to make things competitive between the participants. The children, she said, interacted well with each other.

"The director of the orphanage said he saw a positive change in the students."

Even though she could only stay for three weeks of the project, which wraps up at the end of November, Wilson is still involved.

"I want to go back there for next summer," she said, adding she misses the students.

She hopes to build up a library for the children to leave behind as a legacy of the program. She hopes to see a video component added and a program for girls as well.

"This [project] has opened up some positive avenues for the children. We're hoping to get some of them into an art institute."

Wilson said besides Heber and Adnan, others have stepped up to do what they can to help the children.

Anyone interested in the project, or helping to set up a library for the children, can contact Wilson at erwinwilson@theoneshotproject.com. More information on the project can be found at www.theoneshotproject.com and www.theoneshotproject.com/blog, where the children's photos can be seen.

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■ MARSHVILLE HERITAGE FESTIVAL: Quilt and canoe raffled off



MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo

Winner of the quilt, Marianne Heaslip, centre left, and winner of the handmade canoe Joe Szymanski, centre right, received their respective prizes from the Marshville Heritage Festival raffles on Friday. The prizes were presented by festival chair Margaret Robertson, left, and chair of the canoe-building committee Brian Heaslip, right. The canoe raffle raised about \$3,500 and the quilt raffle \$1,000 for the village's building fund.

■ ARSON: Car and barn burn

Fire deliberately set: police

InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Niagara Regional Police say a fire at an abandoned barn on Hwy. 140 in Port Colborne on Friday, Sept. 30 was deliberately set to destroy a car reported stolen earlier in the evening.

Port Colborne Fire and Emergency Services were called to the fire on Hwy. 140, on the northeast side of the railway overpass near Kleinsmith Rd., around 9 p.m. that evening and found the barn fully engulfed in flames.

Regional police were also called out and Ontario Provincial Police shut down the highway until the fire was contained.

Police say the fire was quickly extinguished and a black jaguar was found to have been in the barn. The jaguar's owner was identified by police as someone who lives in Niagara. The

owner had reported it stolen an hour prior to its discovery by Port Colborne firefighters.

In a release, police say they are now confident the fire was purposely set in order to destroy the vehicle for reasons "yet to be proven at this time."

During their investigation, police say they became aware of a dark colored jaguar being driven erratically and recklessly in the area of Barber Dr., just north of Main St. East (Hwy. 3) in Port Colborne.

The vehicle was observed a couple of hours prior to the fire and was last seen driving east on Second Conc. towards Hwy. 140. A small white colored vehicle with dark tinted windows was observed following

the jaguar as both vehicles headed towards the highway.

The driver of the jaguar is described as a white male in his mid to late 20's, wearing a baseball cap backwards. This male was also observed to have a large diamond earring in his left ear.

Anyone with information that may assist in this investigation is urged to contact police at 905-735-7811 ext. 3343.

Information on crimes can be submitted anonymously using Crime Stoppers of Niagara. To leave an anonymous tip, please contact Crime Stoppers via: 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS).

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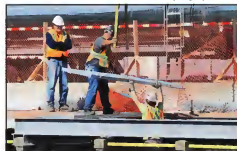
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■ CONSTRUCTION: Main St. W. shaping up



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Workers move steel plates into place along the well bridge on Main St. W. in Port Colborne on Wednesday. The work is part of the revitalization of the street and will include bump-outs along the sidewalk for people to overlook the weir.



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■ CANALSIDE KITCHEN



EDDIE CHAU Staff Photo

Rosemary Poisson, owner of Canalside Kitchen Store in Port Colborne, will have many kitchen wares as well as local food items for sale when her store opens at 230 West St. on Friday.

Restaurateurs invite you into their store

EDDIE CHAU
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Local is something Canalside Pub and Eatery has been adhering to for years.

As a restaurateur, Rosemary Poisson always believed in utilizing the best the area (or province) had to offer. Whether it was using kitchen and dining wares or buying fresh ingredients from the farmers' market, supporting local producers is something Poisson and her husband Greg believed in for their business.

And after five years of operating their restaurant on historic West St., the Canalside brand expanded into the retail world. The entrepreneurial Poisson opened the Canalside Kitchen Store next door to the restaurant at 230 West St. this Friday.

"We've been in business for five years so this seemed like the next logical step," Poisson said. "We're opening a kitchen store and supplying stuff to the public we've been able to find (for our restaurant) in the last five years. It's a good complement to the restaurant. Everything we sell is food-related and we love food."

The store will feature unique items, including kitchenware and food products. All with an emphasis on being Canadian-made, Poisson said.

"Most of the food products are made in Canada," Poisson said. "Honey

will be from White Meadows Farms in Effingham. Soap is being made by Harmony on White in Port Colborne. My candles are made in Port Colborne. Our kitchen stuff is from Trudeau Corp., which is Canadian and has been around for 122 years. They are good

quality products that are unique and local."

Canalside Kitchen Store is open seven days a week from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. with extended hours until 9 p.m. on Fridays. For more information call 905-834-6090.

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■ **SUNDAY:** Country Walk takes place

Walking in strength, hope and courage

InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Since the Country Walk for Breast Cancer started in 1994, \$375,000 has been raised for breast cancer research. About \$297,000 has gone toward the mammography department at Port Colborne hospital, which now has the Ramona Pizzo-Bonnie Jackson

Breast Screening Centre, says Teresa Pizzo, one of the walk's founders.

"We are hoping to hit \$400,000 this year. In order to maintain the best equipment, education and assistance ... we must continue to raise much-needed funds for the mammography department."

"To meet the Ontario Radiology Accreditation, con-

stant upgrading and ongoing maintenance is needed for all equipment so it's important to keep raising money," says Pizzo.

The hospital centre bears the name of two people close to Pizzo, her mother Ramona Pizzo, who died of breast cancer, and friend and fellow walk founder Bonnie Jackson, a two-time cancer survivor.

The walk — which takes

place Sunday, Oct. 16, at Emerald Pines Golf Club on Sherk Rd. in Port Colborne — started when Pizzo's mother was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1994.

"At that time, I was living in Canada and in May 1994, I participated in The Revlon Run/Walk, an event for women's cancers. That summer, I came home to Port Colborne

to help out at our family restaurant. I talked about the Mother's Day breast cancer event with my mom and our family friend, Bonnie (Jackson), on how much fun and how inspirational it was. I asked Bonnie if in Port Colborne, or anywhere locally, was there an event anything like this. Bonnie said that at that time there was not a walk or any type of awareness

on breast cancer locally," Pizzo says.

Jackson says the two women started talking about the Revlon Run/Walk when Pizzo asked her if she wanted to organize a walk locally. She said the two of them "just winged it" based on what Pizzo had seen done in California.

see **BREAST CANCER** | page 19



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■ BREAST CANCER

WALK paired with country theme

FROM PAGE 16

That first walk, held at Cedar Bay Inn, the Pizzo family restaurant, and the surrounding country roads, raised \$12,000.

Jackson and Pizzo say through the years, not only did attendance increase, there was also a huge increase in breast cancer awareness. Funds raised have increased, especially since proceeds were kept in the community, they say.

It started just as a Country Walk, then progressed to a walk and a golf tournament, with the reason being Bonnie and I wanted more men to get involved," Pizzo says.

With the walk getting bigger, Cheryl James was brought on board to help with producing the events. "The walk started at Cedar Bay, and then Whiskey Run with the golf event."

The three women say the Country Golf event was initially well received, but the

past few of years, October was not a good month to hold a golf tournament. Frost on the ground held golfers back and participants had to wait a long time, so it was disp-the walk moved to a new location last year, Emerald Pines.

Pizzo says about 350 people take part in the walk each year and that includes participants, volunteers and friends and family members who show support for their loved ones who are participating. There is also a free mini-festival directly after the walk. Local grocery stores, food markets and restaurants donate food for everyone to eat.

"We try to keep a fun country theme with live music, boies of hay to sit on, a barbeque with chili, and photos taken, and this year for a small fee you can have a pink strand of hair attached to your head to create awareness," says James.

She, Pizzo and Jackson say the run will continue to stay at Emerald Pines and in the country because the theme is walking with family and friends in the serenity of the country, enjoying the silence of being away from a busy day, reflecting on the loved ones participants are walking in support of or in memory of. Walkers are also encouraged to bring photos of those loved ones and either carry the photo or pin it on the back of their shirt.

While there's the walk and a golf tournament earlier in the year at Emerald Pines, the walk has also spawned the Country Table Toppers Luncheon at the Italian Hall. Held earlier this year, it sold out with more than 250 guests attending. It raised \$8,000.

The events are growing, creating more awareness and have been very successful.

"Bonnie, Cheryl and I would really like to extend



Supplied photo

In this supplied photo, walkers talk part in last year's annual Country Walk for Breast Cancer. This year's will be held Sunday, Oct. 16 at Emerald Pines Golf Club. There's still time to sign up, pledge sheets are available at Boggio Pharmacy in Port Colborne.

a big thank you to the great T-shirt sponsors, the fun product sponsors and the fantastic food sponsors who have graciously stood by us through the years," Pizzo

says. "The Country Walk is all about uniting and embracing each other, to walk in strength, hope and courage — and the people of Port

Colborne do just that."

The event gets underway at 9 a.m. with registration, followed by opening ceremonies at 10 a.m. and the walk shortly after that.

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14 oz Can

**1/2
PRICE** **\$1**

12 Can Limit



**QUAKER CRISPY MINIS
RICE CAKES**



**1/2
PRICE** **\$1**

4 Pkg Limit

**ROMAN BRAND
LASAGNA OR CANNELLONI**

2 lb./2.25 lb. tray



SAVE
\$2.50
3 99

6 Pkg Limit

DELMONTE
PEAS, CREAMED CORN,
PEACHES & CREAM CORN,
GREEN or WAX BEANS

12 oz./14 oz cans



\$1



POWERADE

710 ml Bottle

\$1

**BRAVO
SPAGHETTI SAUCE**

680 ml can



\$1

**STONE CREEK DAIRY
ICE CREAM**

1.89 litre carton



3 99

**NO. 1 GRADE ONTARIO
RED DELICIOUS APPLES**



99¢

lb.

**NO. 1 GRADE ONTARIO
WHITE
POTATOES**

10 lb. Bag



1 49

2 Bag
Limit

**NO. 1 GRADE CALIFORNIA
"ANDY BOY" BROCCOLI**



99¢

Bunch

**NO. 1 GRADE ONTARIO
FLEMISH BEAUTY PEARS**



1 29

LIMITED
CROP
ENJOY
NOW!

lb.

**NO. 1 GRADE ONTARIO
CAULIFLOWER**



1 49

EACH